

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A printing method with a printer connected to a host device, comprising:
  - sending, in response to a request from the host device, information corresponding to a number of the printer's usable object[[s]] identifiers ~~the printer can simultaneously handle~~;
  - receiving, from the host device, a first print setting information and ~~a number of~~ object identifiers corresponding to the number of printer's usable object[[s]] identifiers ~~the printer can simultaneously handle~~, wherein each of the ~~number of~~ object identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of print objects;
  - requesting print object data for each of the plurality of print objects using the ~~number of~~ object identifiers;
  - receiving the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects from the host; and
  - printing the plurality of print objects using the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects and the first print setting information.
2. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
  - receiving inquiry information regarding the first print setting information sent from said host device; and
  - sending reply information to said host device based on characteristic information of said printer in reply to said received inquiry information.
3. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
  - preparing a second print setting information based on the characteristic information of said printer; and
  - printing at least one of the plurality of print objects using at least one selected from the group consisting of the first print setting and the second print setting information.
4. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:

when said first print setting information designates printing based on the plurality of print object data, respectively requesting said plurality of print object data.

5. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 4, further comprising:
  - specifying an order for requesting the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects based on said first print setting information; and
  - requesting said the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects in the order.
6. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
  - dividing a prescribed print area of a print recording medium into prescribed partial areas when said received first print setting information is designating automatic arrangement of print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects; and
  - requesting print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects from said host device to be arranged within said divided prescribed partial areas based on said first print setting information by said printer.
7. (Original) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:
  - dividing said prescribed print area into said prescribed partial areas made from said prescribed number of divisions in accordance with the value relating to a prescribed number of divisions designated by said first print setting information.
8. (Original) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:
  - determining the arrangement area of the print object data to be arranged within said prescribed partial areas in accordance with the margin value designated by said first print setting information.
9. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:
  - generating a prescribed band area worth of bit map data based on said print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects sent from said host device.
10. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:

respectively requesting print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects to be arranged in said partial areas belonging to a prescribed band area in said prescribed print area.

11. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:  
requesting print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects from said host device based on issued management information, wherein management information comprises print object data specifying information for at least one of the plurality of print objects.
12. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 11, further comprising:  
receiving an issuance request of management information sent from said host device; and  
issuing said management information in accordance with the print setting information in response to said received issuance request.
13. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 12, further comprising:  
issuing new management information when the processing related to the printing of print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects sent from said host device is completed.
14. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 11, further comprising:  
releasing the management information of said completed print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects when the processing relating to the printing of said print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects is completed; and  
sending said released management information to said host device.
- 15-17. (Cancelled)
18. (Currently Amended) A printer connected to a host device, comprising:  
processing means for interpreting command data sent from said host device and performing prescribed processing in accordance with said interpretation result;  
storage means for storing print object data; and

printing means for executing printing to a print recording medium based on said print object data stored in said storage means;

wherein said processing means includes functionality to:

send, in response to a request from the host device, information corresponding to a number of the printer's object[[s]] identifiers ~~the printer can simultaneously handle~~;

receive, from the host device, a first print setting information and ~~a number of~~ object identifiers corresponding to the number of printer's object[[s]] identifiers ~~the printer can simultaneously handle~~, wherein each of the ~~number of~~ object identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of print objects;

request print object data for each of the plurality of print objects using the ~~number of~~ object identifiers;

receive the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects from the host; and

print the plurality of print objects using the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects and the first print setting information.

19. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means sends to said host device reply information based on characteristic information associated with the printer in response to a print setting inquiry; and receives the first print setting information sent from said host device in response to said reply information.

20. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means prepares second print setting information based on characteristic information of said first print setting information; and generates bit map data corresponding to at least one the plurality of print objects using based on at least one selected from the group consisting of said first print setting information and said second print setting information.

21. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 18, wherein when said first print setting information designates printing based on print object data for at least one the plurality of

print objects, said processing means requests said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects.

22. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 21, wherein said processing means requests print object data for each of the plurality of print objects in an order based on said first print setting information and requests said print object data for each of the plurality of print objects in the order.
23. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means divides a prescribed print area of a print recording medium into prescribed partial areas when said received first print setting information is designating automatic arrangement of print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects; and said printer requests print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects to be arranged within said divided prescribed partial areas from said host device based on said first print setting information.
24. (Original) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means divides said prescribed print area into said prescribed partial areas made from said prescribed number of divisions in accordance with the value relating to a prescribed number of divisions designated by said first print setting information.
25. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means determines the arrangement area of the print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects to be arranged within said prescribed partial areas in accordance with the margin value designated by said first print setting information.
26. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means generates a prescribed band area worth of bit map data based on said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects sent from said host device.
27. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means respectively requests print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects to be

arranged in said partial areas belonging to a prescribed band area in said prescribed print area.

28. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means requests print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects from said host device based on issued management information.
29. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 28, wherein said processing means issues said management information in accordance with the print setting information in response to a command request relating to the issuance request of management information.
30. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 28, wherein said processing means issues new management information when the processing related to the printing of print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects is completed.
31. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 28, wherein said processing means releases the management information of said completed print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects when the processing relating to the printing of said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects is completed; and sends said released management information to said host device.
32. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means requests said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects from said host device upon receiving information relating to the termination of the print setting.
33. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means suspends printing upon receiving print suspension information from said host device while printing said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects.
34. (Original) A printer according to claim 33, wherein said processing means sends information relating to the termination of print processing to said host device upon controlling the suspension of said printing.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a program for controlling a printer connected a host device, the program comprising instructions for:

sending, in response to a request from the host device, information corresponding to a number of the printer's usable object[[s]] identifiers ~~the printer can simultaneously handle~~;

receiving, from the host device, a first print setting information and ~~a number of~~ object identifiers corresponding to the number of printer's usable object[[s]] identifiers ~~the printer can simultaneously handle~~, wherein each of the ~~number of~~ object identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of print objects;

requesting print object data for each of the plurality of print objects using the ~~number of~~ object identifiers;

receiving the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects from the host; and

printing the plurality of print objects using the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects and the first print setting information.

37. - 40. (Cancelled)

41. (New) A communication method of a host device connected to a printer, comprising:

sending, to the printer, a command relating to an object identifier request;

receiving, from the printer in response to the command relating to the object identifier request, information corresponding to a number of the printer's usable object identifiers;

sending, to the printer, a first print setting information and object identifiers corresponding to the number of printer's usable object identifiers, wherein each of the object identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of print objects;

receiving from the print, a data request for each of the plurality of print objects using the object identifiers; and

sending, to the printer, the print object data from each of the plurality of print objects.

42. (New) The communication method according to claim 41, comprising:

- obtaining characteristic information of said printer;
- preparing first print setting information by the host device based on said obtained characteristic information; and
- sending said prepared first print setting information to said printer.

43. (New) A host device connected to a printer, comprising:

- a communication interface to communicate data with the printer, wherein the communication interface includes functionality to:
  - send, to the printer, a command relating to an object identifier request;
  - receive, from the printer in response to the command relating to the object identifier request, information corresponding to a number of printer's usable object identifiers;
  - send, to the printer, a first print setting information and the object identifiers corresponding to the number of printer's usable object identifiers, wherein each of the object identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of print objects;
  - receive, from the printer, a data request for each of the plurality of print objects using the object identifiers; and
  - send, to the printer, the print object data from each of the plurality of print objects.